

Message Text

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, EAGR, OCON

SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF IFAD TO MEET IN
ROME JUNE 10-11

1. UN PRESS SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED AT UN/OPI PRESS BRIEFING
23 APRIL THAT SYG WALDHEIM HAD DECIDED TO CONVENE A TWO DAY
UN CONFERENCE BEGINNING 10 JUNE THAT IS EXPECTED TO FORMALLY
ESTABLISH IFAD AS A UN SPECIALIZED AGENCY. PRESS SPOKESMAN
WENT ON TO MENTION THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD JUST RECENTLY
ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO MAKE A SPECIAL \$50 MILLION CON-
TRIBUTION TO IFAD.

2. REPRODUCED AS PARAGRAPH THREE OF THIS MESSAGE IS UN
PRESS RELEASE FC/44 DATED 23 APRIL ON THE JUNE MEETING
TO FORMALLY ESTABLISH IFAD. REPRODUCED AS PARAGRAPH FOUR
IS UN PRESS RELEASE FC/43 DATED 21 APRIL CONCERNING SAUDI
ARABIA'S \$50 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO IFAD.

3. QUOTE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNA-
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TIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TO MEET IN ROME

TWO-DAY SESSION BEGINNING 10 JUNE 1976 EXPECTED TO FORMALLY ESTABLISH FUND AS UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCY

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, KURT WALDHEIM, HAS DECIDED TO CONVENE THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD) IN ROME FROM 10 TO 11 JUNE 1976 IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 OF RESOLUTION 3503 (XXX) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THAT RESOLUTION, THE CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO ADOPT AND OPEN FOR SIGNATURE THE AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND, WHICH IS TO BECOME A SPECIALIZED AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. IN ADDITION, THE CONFERENCE WILL ALSO RECEIVE AND RECORD PLEDGES TO THE FUND, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TARGET OF 1,000 MILLION SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS (SDRS), ABOUT \$1.25 BILLION, AND IT WILL ESTABLISH A PREPARATORY COMMISSION TO MAKE ALL ARRANGEMENTS NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE FUND TO COMMENCE ITS OPERATIONS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TO HELP FINANCE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PRIMARILY FOR FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER 1974. THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING UP THE FUND ARE BEING ORGANIZED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL (WFC) WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO ENSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL THE DECISIONS OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AT ITS SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, EXPRESSED URGENCY, IN ITS RESOLUTION 3362 (S-VII), FOR THE EARLY CREATION OF THE FUND. AND MORE RECENTLY, THE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE PARIS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION URGED POTENTIAL DONORS TO INDICATE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS PROMPTLY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SO THAT THE FUND MAY BEGIN OPERATIONS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

THREE SESSIONS OF A MEETING OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES ON IFAD WERE CONVENED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN GENEVA FROM 5 TO 6 MAY 1975 AND IN ROME FROM 27 OCTOBER TO 1 NOVEMBER UNCLASSIFIED

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1975 AND FROM 28 JANUARY TO 6 FEBRUARY 1976. AT THE CONCLUSION OF ITS THIRD SESSION, THE MEETING OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES REPORTED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT IT HAD COMPLETED ITS WORK AND REQUESTED HIM TO MAKE ALL NECESSARY PREPARATIONS FOR, AND TO CONVENE THE CONFERENCE.

IN DECIDING TO CONVENE THE CONFERENCE ON 10 JUNE IN ROME, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE PROSPECTS, BASED ON INDICATIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL PLEDGES RECEIVED UP TO NOW

FROM STATES, OF REACHING AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE THE TARGET
OF 1,000 MILLION SDRS FOR THE INITIAL RESOURCES OF THE FUND.
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4. QUOTE SAUDI ARABIA ANNOUNCES \$50 MILLION CONTRIBUTION
TO INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

(THE FOLLOWING IS REPRODUCED AS RECEIVED FROM THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL, ROME.)

THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA ANNOUNCED IN ROME TODAY
A CONTRIBUTION OF \$50 MILLION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD), WHICH IS BEING SET UP
BY THE UNITED NATIONS TO PROVIDE NEW FINANCING FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE SAUDI ARABIAN CONTRIBUTION
WAS ISSUED IN ROME BY AMBASSADOR ABUL MUHSIN AL-SUDEARY
OF SAUDI ARABIA:

"THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA HAS DECIDED TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION
OF \$US50 MILLION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT. THE KINGDOM ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE SOLUTION
OF THE FOOD PROBLEM THROUGH INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND WAS ONE OF THE CO-SPONSORS OF THE
RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER
1974 TO SET UP A NEW FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TO
PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AND TO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS IN INCREASING FOOD
PRODUCTION. SAUDI ARABIA HAS ALSO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED WITH
OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN FINALIZING THE DRAFT ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT
FOR THE FUND."

AS THE MEETING OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES WAS INFORMED IN
FEBRUARY 1976, A COLLECTIVE CONTRIBUTION FROM THE OPEC
SPECIAL FUND TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL
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DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT
MEETING OF THE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE OF THE OPEC SPECIAL
FUND.

INTERESTED COUNTRIES HAVE NOW FINALIZED THE DRAFT ARTICLES
OF AGREEMENT FOR THE FUND, WHICH WAS PROPOSED BY THE WORLD
FOOD CONFERENCE IN ROME 1974. MANY COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY
ANNOUNCED THEIR PLEDGES TO THE FUND.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS WILL
CONVENE A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE IN ROME ON 10 AND 11
JUNE TO FORMALLY ESTABLISH THE FUND, WHOSE RESOURCES WILL
COME FROM TWO GROUPS OF DONOR COUNTRIES -- THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES CALLED "TRADITIONAL DONORS", AND THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES IN A POSITION TO CONTRIBUTE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF
OPEC. THE TARGET IS 1,000 MILLION SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS (SDRS),
ABOUT \$1.25 BILLION. UNQUOTE

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